



# DHHS Gazette



## JANUARY 2006

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#### Top State News

## New HoosierRx for 2006

HoosierRx will help eligible seniors pay for their Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs.

It includes:

- (1) monthly premiums (up to \$35.69 per month) for Medicare Prescription Drug Plan;
- (2) a \$250 annual allowance to use toward any deductible and/or co-pays;
- (3) HoosierRx will pay the above directly to your MedicalRx Plan.



To be eligible for HoosierRx in 2006, he/she must be:

- a) an Indiana resident age 65 or older;
- b) have a monthly income at or below \$1,196 if single or \$1,604 if married;
- c) must apply for Extra Help from Medicare by completing the Social Security Administration's "Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Cost." [Note: HoosierRx may help with MedicareRx costs if you are eligible for only Partial Extra Help from Medicare or are denied for Extra Help from Medicare];
- d) must enroll in a MedicareRx Plan that will work with HoosierRx to get help from Hoosier Rx.

There are only **3 STEPS** to get help from HoosierRx:

**Step 1** - Fill out the Social Security "Application for Help with your Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs and send it to Social Security.

**Step 2** - Enroll in a Medicare Prescription Plan that will work with HoosierRx.

Call (1-877-793-0765) for a list of available Plans. Enroll by December 31 to have MedicareRx coverage on January 1, 2006.

**Step 3** - After completing steps 1 and 2, call HoosierRx to apply HoosierRx assistance at 1-866-267-4679 toll-free.

Help choose a Medicare Rx Plan that meets your needs, call the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) toll-free at 1-800-452-4800.

See page two for the date FSSA will give a presentation about HoosierRX in the southwest area of Deaf community.

## -- Attention: BMV Contact Person Has Changed--

If you plan to take a driver's license examination or for any other reason and need an interpreter at your local Bureau of Motor Vehicles, please contact Madonna A. Hoover, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Drivers Services Department, Phone: 317-234-3392 or email at [mahoover@bmv.IN.gov](mailto:mahoover@bmv.IN.gov).



## SHHH CHANGES ITS NAME TO THE HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (HLAA)

Bethesda, Maryland: The Board of Trustees of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH) voted to change the name of the organization to the Hearing Loss Association of America on November 6, 2005 during their fall meeting.

Terry D. Portis, Ed.D., executive director of SHHH states, "SHHH needs to position itself to meet the needs of a new generation of people with hearing loss while continuing to serve the constituents who rely on us today. I believe that by updating our name and image we will be better able to communicate our message and fulfill our mission. SHHH expects to complete the transition to the Hearing Loss Association of America in March 2006."

The Hearing Loss Association of America (formerly Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH)) is the nation's largest membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. Founded in 1979 by Howard E. "Rocky" Stone, the Hearing Loss Association of America opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support. It publishes a bimonthly magazine, *Hearing Loss* and its website is [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org). The national support network includes the Washington, D.C., area office, 13 state organizations, and 250 local chapters.

### Evansville Deaf Community to Meet With FSSA on HoosierRX

The Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) invites the Deaf Community of Evansville to informational meeting about HoosierRx on Friday, February 3, 2006. The meeting is from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. at RADHH, Evansville Goodwill Industries, Inc., Evansville. There is no cost for admission. This program helps support qualified, low income seniors with discount prescription, direct from the pharmaceutical manufacturer. See page one of this publication for more information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 317-233-5009 TTY or e-mail [donald.tinsley@fssa.in.gov](mailto:donald.tinsley@fssa.in.gov).

Any communities who are interested in having the meeting on HoosierRX in their town please contact Donald Tinsley.

### Things Have Changed!

As of 2006, we have experienced a continuous change in our lives. Technology has emerged to a degree that affects our daily lives without our awareness of it. The Telecommunications Act of 1966 was written almost ten years ago. It no longer seems to apply current changes in technology. The U.S. Congress will have to face new issues. For instance

- (a) More people are using e-mail since 1997 or 1998.
- (b) Most people started using Instant Messaging (IM) in 2002 or 2003.
- (c) More people signed through webcam or video camera since 1995.
- (d) Some are using computer for relay calls. The law was revised in 1996 for using TTY!
- (e) More and more people are using Video Relay. The law hasn't cover it.
- (f) Have you seen any streaming video such as a video clip on your computer? None of this is captioned.

These are new technologies. But interestingly U.S. laws have not covered them. Not yet!

### What is IPAS?

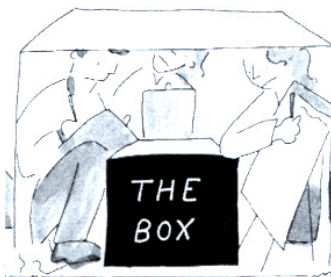
Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services (IPAS) is an independent state agency separate from all other state agencies and programs. IPAS was established in 1977 in response to federal requirements for a program to advocate for the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities. Since then, more programs have been added to serve the advocacy needs of specific groups of individuals with disabilities.

IPAS can help by:

1. Helping you understand your rights;
2. Helping you learn self-advocacy skills;
3. Advising you on what steps you can take to secure your rights, such as appealing denials and filing complaints with appropriate governmental agencies.
4. Representing you with an IPAS advocacy specialist or IPAS attorney to correct rights violations.

For more information, see [www.in.gov/ipas](http://www.in.gov/ipas).  
(Impact Publication, Fall 2005)

# Thinking Outside the Voice BOX



## 2006 Annual Spring Retreat Weekend - March 24-25, 2006

**Activities and workshops for ASL students, beginning interpreter students, parents of a Deaf/HH child and professionals working with Deaf/HH of ALL levels. ICRID is also sponsoring the interpreters' educational workshop on Saturday, March 25.**

**For ASL participants:** The unique retreat format, including staying overnight in Kratzenberg Recreation Center (KRC) at the Indianapolis School for the Deaf, allows students learning ASL as a second language an exceptional opportunity for skill development. (Staying overnight is not required but encouraged for your cultural experience. Attendees will be sleeping on the floor and will need to bring their own pillows, blankets, sleeping bags, etc.)

Workshops, at two skill levels, allow participants to enjoy maximum benefit from the weekend. Participants learn, play, and use signed communication only- **no spoken English allowed!** Each spoken word is fined 25 cents to Bernie the Blab Jar. You will need to have some change to feed Bernie!

**For interpreters:** We will have a separate workshop for working interpreters which will include meals and snacks for the whole group! You are welcome to join us for Friday activities and stay overnight at KRC. CEU's will be offered, pending approval.

**The Deaf Community is invited to attend Friday night A.S.R. Refreshments will follow the Friday night get-acquainted activities.**

***Deadline for registration is March 11, 2006.***

**For more information on fees, schedule, etc., contact Nancy Young at [ny4iu@aol.com](mailto:ny4iu@aol.com).**



## TRAINING IN INDIANA

### January 21, 2006 - Saturday

*Help! How in the World Can I Read Fingerspelling and Numbers?*

Instructors: MJ Herrema Olson

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

RID, ACET & IIC CEUs: .6

EIC: .6 (Category 1)

Indiana School for the Deaf

1200 E. 42nd St.

Indianapolis, IN

Contact: Deaf Community Services

(317) 479-3240

Email:

[dcsterps@eastersealscrossroads.org](mailto:dcsterps@eastersealscrossroads.org)

### February 4, 2006 - Saturday

*ASL Linguistics 101*

Instructors: Kristina Riley

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

RID, ACET & IIC CEUs: .6

EIC: .6 (Category 1)

Indiana School for the Deaf

1200 E. 42nd St.

Indianapolis, IN

Contact: Deaf Community Services

(317) 479-3240

Email:

[dcsterps@eastersealscrossroads.org](mailto:dcsterps@eastersealscrossroads.org)

### February 25, 2006 - Saturday

*Discourse: Use of Space and Identifies*

Instructors: MJ Bienvenue

First workshop (Admission Charge)

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Second workshop (Free Admission)

*"Understanding .. -isms"*

Time: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m."

CEUs: RID & ACET

Contact: Dawn K. Watts, OASLTA Professional Workshop Coordinator

Voice/TTY: 1-877-781-6770

Email: [indian07@juno.com](mailto:indian07@juno.com)

### March 18, 2006 - Saturday

*Talking Culture or Culture Talking: Private to Public Expressions of Culture*

Instructors: Tom Humphries

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

RID, ACET & IIC CEUs: .6

EIC CEUs: .6 (Category 2)

Goshen College

Goshen, IN

Contact: Tracey Stack

Email: [traceys@goshen.edu](mailto:traceys@goshen.edu)

### March 23, 2006 - Thursday

*ASL Coffeehouse*

Instructors: Andy Leffler

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

RID, ACET & IIC CEUs: .3

EIC CEUs: .3 (Category 1)

The Crossings Cafe

1202 W. Pike St.

Goshen, IN

Contact: Tracey Stack

Email: [traceys@goshen.edu](mailto:traceys@goshen.edu)

### April 21-23, 2006 - Fri., Sat. & Sun.

*Christian Interpreter Training Workshop:*

*"Interpreting Teams" and "Making*

*Music Come Alive"*

Instructors: Noah Butler III

Friday night: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

*"I'm on Your Teams in a Religious*

*Setting"*

RID, ACET & IIC CEUs: .2

EIC CEUs: .2 (Category 2)

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

*"Making Music Come Alive"*

RID, ACET & IIC CEUs: .6

EIC CEUs: .6 (Category 1 & 2)

Mt. Zion Apostolic Church

4900 E. 38th St.

Indianapolis, IN

Contact: Kathleen Preddie

(317) 295-9561

Email: [kpreddie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kpreddie@sbcglobal.net)

# DHHS

## DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SERVICES

### CONTACT US

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W-453, P.O. Box 7083,  
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7083

TTY or Voice: (317) 232-1143

TTY or Toll free-Voice: 1-800-  
962-8408

FAX: (317) 233-1566

E-mail:

[jerry.cooper@fssa.in.gov](mailto:jerry.cooper@fssa.in.gov)

Website:

<http://www.in.gov/fssa/dhhs>

### INDIANA DHHS STAFF

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